



Representative Earl Blumenauer

Animal Rights

Congressman Blumenauer strongly supports protecting both wild and domestic animals. He is working in Congress to help communities manage their growth and build livable communities that better protect precious habitats of threatened and endangered species. He is a member of the Congressional Friends of Animals and his support for animal rights earned him a 100% favorable rating from the Humane Society of the United States.

KEY ISSUES:

PROTECTING FARM ANIMALS:

Farm animals, whether they are dairy cows, hogs or chickens deserve humane and compassionate treatment. Farms that raise and process livestock by more humane means give consumers the ability to choose food products that are of superior quality—and morality. It is simply not right that those who exploit both animals and the environment should enjoy an economic advantage over those who adhere to more compassionate and healthy practices.

- ☑ *Congressman Blumenauer is an original cosponsor of the Downed Animals Protection Act, H.R. 443. This legislation would prevent stockyard owners and dealers from selling or transferring non-ambulatory animals. This would prevent the practice of keeping sick and suffering animals alive as they await slaughter.*

CARING FOR COMPANION ANIMALS:

Many caring pet owners are eager to ensure that their pets will be cared for in the event of their death or incapacitation. Unfortunately, current federal tax policy considers pet trusts to be void from inception because the beneficiary of a will or a trust must be a person, not an animal. Bequests made to companion animals do not stand up to legal scrutiny unless authorized by an individual state.

- ☑ *Congressman Blumenauer introduced legislation that adds a new section to the Internal Revenue Code authorizing the creation of charitable remainder trusts for pets.*

PROTECTING MARINE MAMMALS:

Congress should work to protect and improve the lives of all marine mammals, whether they are at risk from captivity, human-caused injury or increasing habitat degradation.

- ☑ *Congressman Blumenauer cosponsored legislation to end the Navy's extremely low frequency communications program that harms aquatic animals and costs the taxpayers millions of dollars every year.*

PROTECTING WILD ANIMALS:

There is a growing realization that the health of wildlife, including those in urban settings, is directly linked to the health of the ecosystem. By managing growth and supporting livable communities, we can better protect precious habitats, threatened species and all wildlife.

- ☑ *Congressman Blumenauer is an original cosponsored of legislation that would ban the use of steel-jawed leghold traps that cause severe distress, pain and suffering for wild and domestic animals. He also spoke on the House floor during consideration of the FY01 Agriculture Appropriations bill in favor of an amendment eliminating funding for this type of lethal predator control.*

PROTECTING RESEARCH ANIMALS:

Congress should work to reduce harm to animals used in research, testing, and education, through the promotion of alternative methods while ensuring continued safety and effectiveness.

- ☑ *Congressman Blumenauer was an original cosponsor of H.R. 4281, the ICCVAM legislation, which created a coordinating committee to develop and validate alternatives to animal testing. This bill was enacted in 2000!*

For more information on Rep. Blumenauer's positions on animal rights, please contact Freya Thoreson in the DC office at (202) 225-4811 or Brooke Borders in the Portland office at (503) 231-2300.

**Position
Information**